FAMOUS MONSTERS #91

JULY 1972

# FAMOUS MONSTERS OF FILMLAND

A WARREN MAGAZINE PDC 75¢

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THE DAY NATURE STRIKES BACK---

## FROGS

NEW MOVIE PREVIEW

COUNT YORGA, VAMPIRE

RETURN OF COUNT YORGA

GODZILLA vs. THE SMOG MONSTER

TALES FROM THE CRYPT

# THE RETURN OF COUNT YORGA

"Looking for something to sink your teeth into?" asks Count Yorga. "So am I!" Vampire that he is, we know that he can only prowl by night, seeking what HE craves—and it isn't to be found in graves. YOU are more fortunate—day OR night, you've picked up the right "medicine": one dose of FAMOUS MONSTERS 7 times a year, starting with this very issue in your clammy claws, and you will be the happiest horror fan in your neighborhood!

# FRIGHT ON!

DO YOU KNOW what magazine is the universal favorite on The Planet of the Apes?

FAMOUS MONKEY STARS OF FILMLAND!

Do you know what magazine is the favorite on Earth among beasty buffs & fiendy fanciers?

The answer's right here in your hands!

Or claws.

FAMOUS MONSTERS, in the Choka Ghoula set, has the paws that refreshes.

Drink deep of this issue—it has something to quench every thirst, from Godzilla Punch to Blood of Blacula to Count Yorga!

And remember—we'll be back witcha in another 8 weeks... full of shrieks!

Forrest J Ackerman

**GLORIA LEE PTACEK, front & center!**

**The spotlite is on YOU! THIS is Your Life, Glorilee. (If it isn't the death of you!)**

**You are being singled out, this issue, to have FM dedicated to you because you are known to be such a dedicated FM fan.**

**Thanx for your support and keep your letters coming. Your appreciation is appreciated by—Ye Ed, Forry.**

**WANTED! More Readers Like**

**BILL KELLER**

**THE COUNT RETURNS**

I just finished viewing the movie THE RETURN OF COUNT YORGA and must praise it on its plot & good performances. My interest and horror were sustained all throughout the picture. In the sequence where the Count is chasing after a young man in the hallway of his mansion, with fangs gleaming and arms stretched out toward his victim, Robert Quarry proves himself to be a true master of the macabre. He did a superb job as the Count, and I hope he appears in more horror films in the future.

I would like to comment on "The Monster Speaks" article in **FM** #88. Christopher Lee is truly a fantastic man. Just as Lugosi and Karloff were the horror kings of their time, Lee and Peter Cushing have now become the horror kings of today. I hope you continue to write more articles on Christopher Lee and, eventually, Peter Cushing.

**KAREN NEILSON**
**address unknown**

**HE DOESN'T SCARE EASY**

THE ABOMINABLE DR. PHIBES was one of the most disappointing movies that I have ever seen. It had a few good parts, I'll admit; it was a bit funny, a bit sad and the special effects, etc. were fine. But the picture wasn't scary at all! Try as he did, Vincent Price just didn't scare me.

I think that THE LODGER, with George Sanders and Laird Cregar was very scary. I was on the edge of my seat and was very nervous throughout

**WANTED! More Readers Like**

**GORD SHRIVER**

the whole movie. Hopefully, DR. PHIBES RISES AGAIN will be a lot better.

Boris Karloff has long been one of my favorite actors, and I look forward to the release of his final films, CAULDRON OF BLOOD, HOUSE OF EVIL, THE INCREDIBLE INVASION and ISLE OF THE SNAKE PEOPLE.

**GORD SHRIVER**
**Glen Ellyn, Ill.**

**HE WENT PSYCHO OVER THIS FILM**

Every time I pick up a new copy of **FM** on the stand, I get very mad! Not one mention of that immortal horror film, PSYCHO, since that little article featuring the corpse of Mrs. Bates in the "Hidden Horror" feature back in **FM** #35. I consider it one of the most frightening movies to come along in years. In fact, I've seen it approximately six

**WANTED! More Readers Like**

**RICKY KRAFT**

times, and it still scares me to death! Why not be kind to it and the readers of **FM** and do a small article on PSYCHO, or maybe even a filmbook. I'm sure they'd appreciate it!

**PETER MULLER**
**Brooklyn, New York**

**A PAIR OF NIGHTMARES**

There are two truly great motion pictures which you always overlook when writing filmbooks and such. One is NIGHT OF TERROR, starring the great Bela Lugosi. I think this is one of the very best "whodunits" I have ever seen. The second film is the recent release, THE OMEGA MAN based on the novel "I Am Legend" by Richard Matheson. I believe this film to be a fine and very well acted piece of work.

As for your great magazine, when it comes to serious monster stuff . . . you're a real keeper of the flame!

**JESSE OWENS**
**Dallas, Tex.**

**HIS LIKES & DISLIKES**

I am writing to say that I greatly enjoyed your issue #89. The conclusion to THE ABOMINABLE DR. PHIBES filmbook, which I had been eagerly awaiting for months, was excellent.

**WANTED! More Readers Like**

**DAVID KRAFT**

I was overjoyed when I found that you had lengthened the number of pages in the issue.

Two possible complaints I have are your "Girls & Ghouls Gallery" and the "You Axed For It" features. The former, although sometimes slightly informative, is usually uninteresting. And "You Axed For It" was far too brief in #89 (4 pages) to rate any appreciable merit, although the photos were very good. Try to lengthen it in the future. After all, you've got 74 pages! Don't waste 'em!

In all, I thought that issue #89 was one of your best to date, and I hope that there will be many more like it in the future.

**CHRIS FUJIWARA**
**address unknown**

**WANTED! More Readers Like**

**JON BILLS**

**WILLARD IS A RAT-FINK**

I'd like to comment on **FM** #89.

First of all, I really like the fact that you've added an extra 8 pages. This gives me a

**(Continued on page 74)**

FAMOUS MONSTERS OF FILMLAND

JULY, 1972 Number 91

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OUR COVER: Artist Ken Kelly almost crooked when we gave him the assignment to paint this issue's cover, illustrating American-International's new thriller.

# CONTENTS

**4 FANG MAIL**
Dental Department: Our Readers Sink Their Teeth into Our Past Performances!

**6 FANTASTIC FUTURAMA**
A Lurk Ahead at the Shapes of Things to Come.

**12 SMILE IF YOU CALL HIM MONSTER**
The Late Basil Rathbone Interviewed in Our Feature Reprint from 5 Years Ago.

**18 THE FROGS**
Our Feature Preview will leave You Agog!

**26 GODZILLA VS. THE SMOG MONSTER**
Those Japanese Wrestlers are At It Again in a Moving Pic that will Leave You Groggy!

**32 YOU AXED FOR IT**
All New for YOU & YOU! KARLOFF! LUGOSI! TV Monsters! CHRISTOPHER LEE! LON CHANEY SR.!

**38 TALES FROM THE CRYPT**
Five Fantastic Fright Films Rolled into One Eerie Epic!

**45 MYSTERY PHOTO**
A Puzzling Pic You Won't Figure Out Quick!

**46 COUNT YORGA, VAMPIRE**
Robert Quarry as the Creepy Count with the Unquenchable Thirst.

**50 THE RETURN OF COUNT YORGA**
Back in the Flap of a Bat's Wing to Do His Thing!

**68 GRAVEYARD EXAMINER**
The Voice (eek!) of Fiendom.

**73 PROFESSOR GRUEBEARD**
The Man Who Wrote the Encyclopedia Fanatica Answers Interesting Questions.

# 'FANTASTIC FUTURAMA'

## forthcoming sci-fantasy & horror dramas & fright films

### beyond belief

It seems to your editor, as he starts this report on the state of THINGS to come—fright films finished & fantastic pix announced for production—that never in FM'S 14 fear-filled years has there been such a FLOOD of horror, sci-fi & fantasy movies on the horizon.

Moving right along—

TWILIGHT PEOPLE are coming, test tube terrors half beast, ALL monster: bat-men, rat-men, owl-men, animal-headed horned women. Starring John Ashley.

Action scene from THE BLOOD ON SATAN'S CLAW, probably previously known as SATAN'S SKIN.

We've heard of Woman's Lip (Son of Woman's Lib) but this is going *tooth* extremes. Not to mention ex-screams. We don't know *what* new fright flick this particular pic is from so you'll have to see 'em *all* (you intended to anyway, didn't you?) in order to find out. The Witch does remind us of the creepy crone at the end of the Hitchcock-like thriller, THE DATE, which has a great shock scene in it and a shuddery finish.

CURIOUSLY YELLOW? This five-in-one devilishly handsome fellow is the scar-star of BEAST OF THE YELLOW NIGHT.

THE GROUNDSTAR CONSPIRACY, based on the book *The Alien* by L.P. Davies. As a result of an accident, George Peppard finds himself a man without a memory of his past and a present that bodes ill for his future if he cannot determine the answers to strange questions that plague him: why is the color of his hair an unearthly shade? Why does he have difficulty breathing, as tho his lungs were meant for another planet? *What* is that unidentifiable accent he has?

Dig this: GRAVE OF A VAMPIRE.

Dig this: VELVET VAMPIRE, wherein the living change places with the dead.

Dig this: DRACULA'S LUST FOR BLOOD. Vampires with golden eyes!

Dig this: THE VAMPIRE OF CASTLE FRANKENSTEIN.

Dig this: THE NIGHT STALKER. This telefilm caused a sensation on TV, with Barry Atwater as the fan*tas*tic Vegas Vampire.

Dig this: JONATHAN. From all reports, the best vampire film made in Europe since NOSFERATU.

## keep digging

Dig this: THE VAMPIRE PEOPLE.

Dig this: GURU THE MAD MONK (yes, vampiric!)

Dig this: BLACULA. (Darkula strikes again!)

Dig this: COUNTESS DRACULA

Dig this: SHE WAS A HIPPY VAMPIRE. The Bat Girls Club vs. Dr. Neon. (Light fare.)

Dig this: DRACULA 1972 A.D. (The *Lee* Dracula of the year.)

Lon Chaney & John Carradine together again in BLOOD OF THE MAN DEVIL, a Satanic night-

**A weird shot from one of BORIS KARLOFF'S final four films: THE FEAR CHAMBER.**

mare of a witches coven, a warlock-haunted village, black magic & demons in the night.

I, MONSTER, the new retelling of the oft-told tale of Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde, this time with Christopher Lee & Peter Cushing.

DR. JEKYLL & SISTER HYDE, coming from AIP.

DR. JEKYLL & MISTRESS HYDE.

DR. JEKYLL & MR. BLOOD.

THE JEKYLL & HYDE PORTFOLIO, a film featuring actor Gray Daniels, to whom an issue of FM was dedicated in the early days when he was (as in fact he remains) a devoted fan of horror films.

## more creepies coming

SATAN'S SKIN (French) should make your goosepimples crawl. Then see, if you can, before you freeze to death, the Korean-made FIRE WOMAN.

*Alll aboarrrd* the HORROR EXPRESS with Telly Savalas.

Joseph Cotten portrays BARON BLOOD.

BEN the super rat is back in the sequel to WILLARD and friendly pets become *fiendly* monsters when they grow four feet tall in RABBITS.

Jill Haworth escapes from the TOWER OF EVIL but only because its title has been changed to HORROR ON *SNAPE* ISLAND. Repeat: *SNAPE ISLAND* (not *snake).*

The incomparable Orson Welles stars as the enigmatic Mr. Cato, a powerful personality who dominates the inhabitants of a terrorized town named Lilith. It is rumored that Mr. Cato is the master of the ancient art of raising the dead. You'll have the opportunity to see for yourself in . . . NECROMANCY.

## sci-fic pix click

For those of you who fancy films like A CLOCKWORK ORANGE, 2001, THE OMEGA MAN and THX, there are lots more futuristic sights & sounds to be seen in:

SILENT RUNNING . . . a fleet of super spaceships & a group of incredibly realistic robots, out around Saturn!

Z.P.G.—standing for Zero Population Growth. (Z.P.G. is the title of the picture, which takes place in the hunger-wracked, people-packed, smog-smothered world of the next century.) Werewolf Oliver Reed plays a different breed of cat in this one.

See it and learn the secret of THE TRANSVECTION MACHINE.

ZETA ONE is a fast & furious actioner of a James Bond-type future and COLD WAR IN A COUNTRY GARDEN, despite its strange-sounding name, is supposed to somewhat the same, i.e., a "futuristic Bond".

Title of the *fifth* in the super-simian series, following CONQUEST OF THE PLANET OF THE APES, has been announced as COLONIZATION OF THE PLANET OF THE APES.

EARTHQUAKE!, to be directed in 70MM & Technicolor by John Sturges, sounds like it will be the spectacle that will at last surpass the big shake-up in Clark Gable's old classic, SAN FRANCISCO, and the Sidney Blackmer end-of-the-world thriller of 1935, DELUGE.

**The touch of make-up artist Joe Blasco (the new Jack Pierce?) turns actress into 130-year-old woman in THE TOUCH OF MELISSA unusual witchcraft film soon to be released. (The editor has seen and recommends it.)**

## the last ground-up

Just space for a fast last-minute round-up of the rest of the fantastic films scheduled for the rest of this year and sometime next:

Kurt Vonnegut Jr.'s SLAUGHTERHOUSE-5.

Jack London's THE STAR ROVER.

VIJ, KING OF THE SPIRITS (Russian).

SCREAM OF THE DEMON LOVER.

TERROR OF THE MAD DOCTOR.

HORROR OF THE BLOOD MONSTERS.

Edgar Rice Burroughs' THE LAND THAT TIME FORGOT.

THE WIZARD OF GORE.

Ray Harryhausen's SINBAD'S GOLDEN VOYAGE. LOST HORIZON.

ASTRO ZOMBIES with John Carradine & Wendell Corey.

BEAST OF THE YELLOW NIGHT with John Ashley.

CREATURE WITH THE BLUE HAND, Klaus Kinski.

A TOUCH OF MELISSA... THE BLOOD SECRET... MADAME FRANKENSTEIN... BLOOD SEEKERS... CURSE OF THE FULL MOON... an Egyptian made MUMMY... BLOOD FROM THE MUMMY'S TOMB (AIP)... TERROR OF GODZILLA... THE OTHER... THE EXORCIST ... THE DISAPPEARANCE and DOC SAVAGE, both from Geo. Pal... THE JOSEPH STONE (Gothic)... WAR BETWEEN THE PLANETS... DOCTOR PHIBES RISES AGAIN... and THE BRIDES OF DR. PHIBES! END

# SMILE IF YOU ..... CALL HIM MONSTER!

## Basil Rathbone will eat you alive if you don't!

Mr. Rathbone, this is the editor of *FAMOUS MONSTERS*, the original filmonster magazine," and he directly in the star of the [illegible] latest picture, a space-horror thriller in color. Mr. Rathbone acknowledged the introduction with, "Yes, well of course I'm not so that category." He made it so painfully plain that he was not keen about being identified as a horror actor that my hopes for a Karloff or Price-type interview were immediately dashed.

I had been warned previously by a friend who had visited him on the set of POE'S TALES OF TERROR that Mr. Rathbone had this reaction against being considered in the same class as Lugosi, Karloff, etc. I was not completely shocked by his attitude. I had encountered it before with the late Edward Van Sloan, who would rather have been remembered for his character plays than his nightmare movies.

I could see right off the bat that I was going to get hit over the head with one (a bat) if I asked Basil Rathbone to autograph a foto with an inscription for his monster fans. I realized the response I'd get would be as chilly as an iceberg—and with some justification from his standpoint. An iceberg, as I recall, is only about 1/8th visible above the surface; the remaining 7/8th, the majority of its bulk, is hidden beneath the water. And so it is with Mr. Rathbone's career. An I don't mean most of it is under water: I mean, as monster lovers we admittedly look mainly at the roles that interest us most and are inclined to overlook the greater portion of his work . . . the play he wrote about Judas and performed in, his roles in *Hamlet* and *Romeo & Juliet*, his motion picture career stretching clear back to 1925 and the silent *Masked Bride*.

We all remember Rathbone as Wolf von Frankenstein in SON OF FRANKENSTEIN and envy him because in [illegible] Wolf also [illegible] with Karloff [illegible] his last great appearance as the Frankenstein monster in a movie . . .

We think of Rathbone in the *first* TOWER OF LONDON in 1939 with Boris Karloff as Mord the murderous executioner and a Vincent Price who was just beginning in pictures . . .

We recall him in the gooey episode with Vincent Price nearly a quarter of a century after their encounter in THE TOWER OF LONDON, in *The Case of M. Valdemar* segment of the [illegible] horror tales by Poe, where Rathbone was the evil mesmerist who kept the shell of Price's mortal remains half-alive in a dimension of hell somewhere in death's domain until finally, shockingly, Price's body *melted* like a [illegible] beneath a blazing Sahara sun . . .

We think of him as the mastermind of mysterydom, Sherlock Holmes, detective without peer, in many an exciting adventure film, especially the earlier, 1939 version of THE HOUND OF THE BASKERVILLES (a story which he told me he personally much admires) . . .

He had a mighty role as Lodac the Wicked Warlock in THE MAGIC SWORD.

Yes, Rathbone has been up to much keen villainy in his time—and the end is not yet.

And of course . . . *What place is this?* At the [illegible] of this [illegible] every modern monster fan immediately bursts into uncontrollable laughter as he (she) (or it!) remembers Rathbone's role, along with Lorre, Price & Karloff, in A COMEDY OF TERRORS.

### the blood-bee from outer space

Yes, you read that right. He [illegible] Mr. Rathbone

Role of Lodac the Magician was no laffing matter to Basil Rathbone in Bert Gordon's MAGIC SWORD

**Mr. Magoo meets Basil Rathbone in *The Case of M. Valdemar* segment of POE'S TALES OF TERROR.**

has to contend with Velana, Queen of the Planet Centurion, a world far removed from our own.

The time is 1990.

Mars and one of its 2 moons, Phobos, are among the places visited.

The picture's title: FLIGHT TO A FAR PLANET.

I'm in it in a small but recognizable role as assistant to Dr. Farraday. The doctor is played by Basil Rathbone. I am in scenes with both Rathbone and John (EVIL EYE) Saxon.

The script is written & directed by Curtis Harrington, who made the strange modern mermaid picture NIGHT TIDE and 'way back when he was only 13 years old filmed his own 8mm. version of Poe's FALL OF THE HOUSE OF USHER.

The bee-woman whose high-ghoulerie diet consists of nothing but *blood* is played by Florence Marly, an exotic Czechoslovakian actress who comes from Golem-land and was the female star of the fantastic film KRAKATIT, written by the author of world-famous R.U.R.

It seemed like Old Home Week on the set as I met Samson DeBrier, star of the weird INAUGURATION OF THE PLEASURE DOME, from which we have run several stills in past issues (he was doing a walk-on scene for auld lang syne), and Verne Langdon, who had come to query Mr. Rathbone about making a life-mask of him to add to the Rouges' Ghoullery at the Don Post Monster Mask Studios.

## wraith bones

Whenever he was not busy memorizing his lines or rehearsing his next scene or before the camera, Mr. Rathbone relaxed with the cast and told many fascinating stories. One almost amounted

to a ghost story. He told how at one time he had had an old friend who was very very close to him and this man, together with 3 of his dogs, was hit by an automobile on the highway near Mr. Rathbone's home. The actor rushed to his assistance and the man was taken in an ambulance to a hospital. Unfortunately his life could not be saved and he died a short while later. "To fully understand the part I am about to tell you," Mr. Rathbone said, "you must understand that my friend was not anyone important, his death was not the kind of thing that would be immediately reported on radio or told to the newspapers. Yet within an hour after he died I had a phone call from a woman I had never heard from in my life, and she told me the most extraordinary thing. She would not tell me her name and she didn't want anything from me—in fact she was almost embarrassed to talk to me. But she explained that she was an involuntary spirit medium and sometimes got messages from the Beyond. She startled me by mentioning the name of my friend who had just died and said he had communicated with her. 'He was going fast,' she said, indicating that soon he would have no link left with this life, 'but he wanted you to know this: "There are no dogs here on the Other Side."' That was all she told me—then she rang off."

I was frankly puzzled by this story and spoke up. "If your friend had only time or energy for such a brief message," I said, "I wonder why he placed so much importance on whether there were dogs in the afterlife?"

Mr. Rathbone replied, "You would have had to have known my friend to understand that. You see, he had a very keen sense of humor, and also he & I had on several occasions discussed the possibility of whether animals have souls and survive like human beings."

Mr. Rathbone made it plain that he neither accepted nor disbelieved what the woman had told him but merely reported it as something strange & inexplicable that had happened to him a long time ago.

## comments on karloff

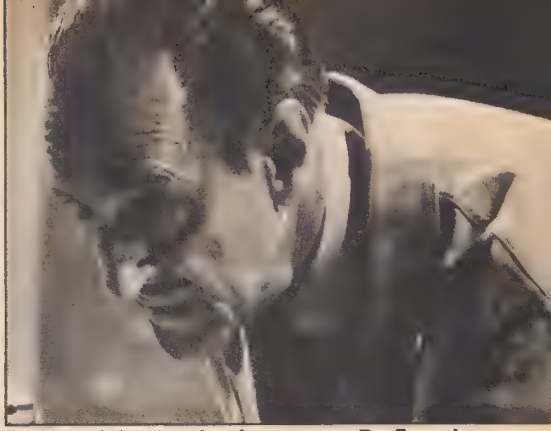
Just that morning, before visiting the set and meeting Mr. Rathbone, I had read quite a disturbing letter from a reader who felt it was wrong of monster fans and me to wish Boris Karloff to go on acting, that they should allow him to retire and "die in peace."

I hope I have made it abundantly clear in past editorial remarks; if not, I wish to state my stand again: that I personally, realizing how much Mr. Karloff suffers from arthritis, would never wish upon him another moment's pain for *my* benefit, and I consider every minute that he devotes to the screen or television nowadays a golden moment to be treasured, and bless him for the effort.

With these thoughts in mind I asked Mr. Rathbone, "Do you think Boris Karloff will ever retire? Or go right on working up to the end of his life?"

"Retire?" he said. "Oh, no, not Boris! not if he can help it. Of course he's almost doubled up now, the poor dear man, but he'll never say die."

It may be remembered that Lionel (THE DEVIL-DOLL) Barrymore acted even while confined to a wheelchair toward the end of his life and, old as he was, Ernest Thesiger never retired.



**Rathbone's latest role minus one: as Dr. Farraday in Curtis Harrington's bloodcurdler which was shot under the title of FLIGHT TO A FAR PLANET but is scheduled to be released under the name revealed on the next page. In the meantime, Rathbone has teamed with Faith Domergue (of THIS ISLAND EARTH fame) in an interplanetary spectacle in color for AIP.**

"Of course Karloff's not his real name, you know," said Rathbone, and proceeded to tell his audience that his real name was "Bill Pratt" and several other facts about him which may have been news to the *non*-monster fans present but would have been well-known to any horror buffs.

For some reason which I have forgotten now he asked me the date of the first FRANKENSTEIN film and I told him 1931, supplying 1935 as the date on THE BRIDE OF FRANKENSTEIN. And then, when he asked the date of the SON (in which he costarred) I told him it was about 1939, which turned out to be right when I got back to my office and checked.

## son of frankenstein and the ackermonster

A few moments later I found myself playing a scene wherein, as Mr. Rathbone's assistant, I followed him into a communications room which I believe was supposed to be either in a space station or on the moon, and on a machine called a videolog we were shown a scene of an alien rocketship crash-landing on Mars. After we witnessed the disaster, Mr. Rathbone turned to me, just inches from my face, looking me square in the eye, and said, "I'm scheduling a press conference for 8 o'clock tomorrow." We rehearsed & shot the scene a half dozen times or more, and sometimes he pronounced the word "scheduling" (as it was natural for him, an Englishman, to do) and at others gave it the American "k" sound of "skeduling". I wonder which will be heard on the screen? But mainly at the time my mind was preoccupied by the thought that *this* was Wolf von Frankenstein that I was standing opposite, that I had never dreamed when I was only 22 years old and thrilled to THE SON OF FRANKENSTEIN when it was new that one day I would be standing face to face, in make-up, before a motion picture camera, being photo-

Wolf von Frankenstein, the SON OF FRANKENSTEIN, looks upon 2 classic monsters—Karloff & Lugosi as the Creature & Ygor—whose like the world will never see again.

**Velana is a Vampire. Velana comes from the mystery world of the void, Centurion. Basil Rathbone learns during the course of the picture that Velana has much in common with a Queen Bee and that perhaps *her* planet, not Mars, should be known as the Red Planet . . . for it is the PLANET OF BLOOD!**

graphed in a scene with Basil Rathbone! PLANET OF BLOOD (its latest title) may not win an Academy Award—and certainly I won't get any honorable mention for diction because I don't say anything!—but I was pleased as punch to appear in the picture. I only hope that many of you dedicated monster fans can sometime in your life have as satisfactory an experience.

## monster or not

He may not like being called "monster" (or monster actor) but I'm sure Mr. Rathbone will have no objection to my telling you that, observing him close-up, it is *quite impossible* to believe he is 73. To me, he didn't look any older than I do myself (I'm 48). Of course, *I* may look 73 to some people! But, seriously, Basil Rathbone is a remarkably well-preserved man and may well be acting for many years to come.

Born in Johannesberg, S. Africa, in 1892, his birthday, incidentally, was the 13th (!) of June. Should you wish to send him congratulations next year, you may address him c/o The Wm. Morris Agency, 151 El Camino, Beverly Hills, Calif.

He has made 3 longplaying albums, he told me, his recitation of Poe's poem *The Raven* being his most popular rendition.

The equivalent of a Command Performance by the Queen of England, Mr. Rathbone was invited several years ago to give his One Man Show at the White House and after his performance was personally congratulated by the late President Kennedy. What greater recognition could any monster ask for? (I smiled, Mr. Rathbone.) **END**

Hey, kid!
Watch you
don't get
a frog in
your throat!

# ...see 'em and croak!

# Beware the FROGS

## the (c)rhyme of the century

Peter Lorre hungry,
Peter Lorre great,
Peter wrote a poem,
Then POET LORRE ATE!

And here, for the firstime anywhere, and also for the lastime anywhere, the only magazine that would dare, brings you the epic unknown verse of the obscure 13th century poet, Peter Efjay Lorre:

BEN is a rat,
Hitchcock for THE BIRDS.
DRAC was a bat,
For TROG there are no words.
GIANT GILAS! KILLER SHREWS!
It really makes you stop and muse.
THEM ants! That TARANTULA!
That SPIDER too.
What next, gargantuan,
Will jump out and go "boo!?"

**Frog Horn, one of the stars of FROGS, who makes his debut in this true life story of Hopalong Caskety.**

Then came the rhyme of the century, the couplet for which Peter won the coveted Non *Campus Mantis* Award! We print it now, in all its glory, an introduction to our story.

*Beware, my friends, the polliwogs:*
*Tadpoles today; tomorrow*—FROGS!

## fear-crackers on the fourth

The fantastic, frightening events all begin on a 4th of July in the near future.

Great-grandfather Jason Crockett (RAY MILLAND) has his own personal island down South and on it an ancient ancestral mansion.

To the mansion, to celebrate his birthday, he has invited his family.

Wife, daughter, son-in-law, grandchildren, they're all there for the happy traditional reunion.

But this day the occasion is somehow shadowed by a feeling of . . . strangeness . . . hanging in the air.

A pall hangs over the party, an inexplicable feeling that something—yes—appalling is about to happen.

Something unprecedented.
Something unique & terrifying.
Something you couldn't put your finger on—
*Or wouldn't want* to if you could!

## a new arrival

One of Jason's older grandsons, Clint Crockett, takes his power-boat out for a buzz around the lake.

Too late!—he sees an unexpected canoe.

He crashes into it.

Shook up is the occupant of the smashed canoe, a stranger named Pickett Smith.

Crockett, upset by the accident, asks Pickett rather sharply, "Who are you? What are you doing here?"

Pickett explains that he is a journalist doing research for an article on a topic that everyone is vitally interested in these days: ecology. Just a fad? It's liable to be man's last one if not taken seriously!

The canoe is taken to the island and Pickett is invited to join the family group. The young writer and Clint's sister Karen become interested in each other.

## terror strikes

Still, the strange feeling of impending tragedy hangs heavy in the air.

One could almost cut it with a knife.

And the tension is heightened within the family when the estate's young caretaker is found in the woods—

Dead.

The unfortunate young man had been in the nearby forest, spraying the underbrush with poison, a necessary precaution in order to limit the otherwise wild expansion of the frogs on the island.

But now, mysteriously, it is not the frogs that are dead but the boy.

And crawling all over the boy's dead body are tiny frogs.

And worse:

Snakes!

## invasion of the creepy-crawlies

Soon the frogs become bolder.

And the snakes.

First frogs start hopping up from the lake to "join the party," altho they are, of course, very much uninvited guests.

Then even more unwelcome guests appear on the scene: the maid & the butler discover a snake in the dining room!

Not a harmless one; a water snake, a garter snake; but a poisonous snake.

With frogs hopping into the mansion—not many, just enough to make one feel uneasy—Kenneth & Bella (another of the grandsons and a girl he has brought for the holiday) decide the affair is taking on much too somber a note to suit them and they would like to leave.

But no one will take them to the mainland in the speedboat so they are obliged to stay.

**You remember Sal, star of THE GIANT GILA MONSTER? Sal Amander returns!**

**Ray Milland doesn't like the sound of things. Especially those frogs!**

**Snake's Alive, if it isn't "Curly!" Whatcha doin', girly—the Twist?**

## spin, spider, spin!

Now things become even more sinister.

Ken's brother Mike goes into the woods because the telephone has gone dead in the house and he wants to find out where the wire has broken.

While in the woods, Mike accidentally shoots himself in the leg.

He attempts to drag himself back to the mansion but something gets in his way:

First tarantulas.

Then scorpions.

They don't just block his path, they deliberately attack him!

Not only do they bite & sting him but a shuddersome mass of spiders *spin a suffocating web around him!*

Mike is literally choked to death by spider webs! Smothered like a fly!

**The moral of this story is: the nextime you see a butterfly you better let it flutter by 'cuz the net result might be a mudbath in the quicksand like happens here to Holly Irving, playing Ray Milland's unfortunate daughter.**

Boy, now that's what we call a sound sleeper! (Could be the sleeper of the season.)

The ecology writer Pickett realizes something unnatural is happening. "Something sinister is pervading this island!" he tells his host.

But crusty old Jason Crockett is not afraid of man, insect, reptile or amphibian and insists on carrying on, despite the tragedies, with the celebration of his birthday.

It is not long before further horror strikes:

Young Ken is in the greenhouse. Deadly insecticide is kept there for the purpose of controlling the plant pests that would otherwise cause infestation.

The greenhouse becomes a death house when giant lizards knock over containers of the lethal spray, poisoning Ken before he can get outside into the air.

Then Iris, Jason's daughter, goes butterfly hunting. As she chases a winged beauty with a net, she fails to note a leaf-covered kind of marsh and before she knows it has taken the first fatal step into—

Quicksand!

Quickly, fighting for her life, screaming for help, she is inexorably sucked beneath the sand to her untimely death.

## the incredible invasion

Frogs are now everywhere on the island.

And lizards, more & more lizards of all sizes and descriptions.

Alligators too have joined the revolt against man. "Yes, that's what it is," says the journalist. "Nature is revolting against man!"

Stuart, Jason's son-in-law, is the first victim of the alligators.

Devoured alive.

Snakes . . . frogs . . . salamanders . . . toads . . . all are now on the "march." If hopping, crawling, slithering things can be said to be on the march.

And everywhere lizards, spiders and "things" are underfoot.

## flight for life

Using the motorboat, Clint takes Bella, Maybelle & Charles to a tourist camp across the lake but it has a deserted, lifeless atmosphere as he leaves them there to return to the island. The boat suddenly drifts away from its mooring and Clint dives in the lake to retrieve it—only to be eaten by fish turned ferocious! His wife rushes to the shore in a hopeless attempt to rescue him, only to be dragged underwater to her death by—

A huge turtle!

Jason, in his mansion, is engulfed by frogs, lizards, snakes . . . but refuses to leave. Too old to fight for his life, he prefers to die in his own surroundings.

Young Jay & Tina Crockett, orphaned by the death of Clint & Jenny (he, eaten by fish; she, drowned by the turtle)—they, the frightened children, jump into the canoe and paddle toward the mainland.

To safety?

Who knows?

Who knows what they will find on the mainland—perhaps the same uprising against man of the insect kingdom, the animal world, the realm of the reptiles?

Perhaps Nature the wide world over has at last had enough of this disease called Man that infests the surface of the planet and is at work to eradicate *inhumankind.* **THE END???**

**When the small wild things of Nature revolt (snakes, spiders, salamanders, etc.) this can be the revolting result!**

**RAY MILLAND, Dracula Society's Latest Award Winner. You remember him in "X," PANIC IN YEAR ZERO, ALIAS NICK BEAL.**

# GODZILLA vs. THE SMOG MONSTER

## ...and the world holds its breath!

### hedorah the horrid

It had to happen.

One day the smog got so thick it congealed. Into an amorphous mass. Writhing. *Living!* And revealed was the sentient gas-horror known as:

Hedorah!

Born of the gaseous bubbles & scum of the foul water of Suruga Bay, in far away Japan.

Pollution's hideous spawn that threatens to doom the world to a death of poisonous choking.

### helpless before hedorah

With deadly breath & venomed blood, it slithers across the land.

A poisoned slime in its wake.

A trembling world in its path!

It crawls!

It swims!

It flies!

And, wherever it appears without warning, it leaves a trail of destruction & death behind.

The Smog Monster menaces a polluting plant in a large Japanese city.

**Young scientist. Pint-sized Ken Yano examines reptile being used for experiments in the hope of finding a solution to the problem of the Smog Monster.**

**The climactic clash between old-favorite Godzilla and new menace Hedorah. Hedorah is the malodorous Smog Monster. Which will win out?**

## in the beginning...

Suruga.

Coastal city of Japan.

The inhabitants of this quiet industrial town go peacefully about their daily activities.

In Suruga, nothing unusual ever happens.

From tall chimneys, billows of black smoke belch forth foul vapors.

The town is blanketed with a man-made cloud of dirty soot.

What of it?

There are many places like it in Europe.

In the USA.

Aren't blue skies a fairy tale anyway?

Wasn't man meant to eventually wear a gas mask?

Apparently a lot of senators & congressmen & industrialists & plant owners think so. And they ought to know!

So... in Suruga life goes on.

The contaminated atmosphere strikes fear to the heart of the asthmatics... and certainly can do weak & diseased hearts no good.

Very likely it all contributes to cancer.

Suruga. Sample city of the Age of Smog. Its evil-smelling rivers draining into its harbor, a harbor that is a vast sewer atop whose vile waters float the waste products of uncaring industry.

Vast islands of rotting debris.

And one day Nature has had enough.

## the revolt of the elements

Nature sickens at the desecrations of mankind.

Unknown to the citizens of Suruga, the sea of waste matter undergoes chemical changes.

The bay of Suruga becomes a vast incubator for a new form of life, a horrible creature born of contamination and growing ever more deadly by the hour.

Sick & tired of man's violation of the good green Earth, Nature at last revolts.

Strikes back.

Creates a new & powerful life-form, one which possibly may prove invincible!

For surely you can't gas a gas monster!

Bullets would only go right thru it.

Well... time will tell.

## the strange specimen

Meet Dr. Yano.

Marine biologist.

He conducts experiments with fish & other forms of sea life.

He has discovered a new disease in the local fish of Suruga and his experiments are greatly aided one day when a fisherman brings him a strange specimen.

The specimen is tadpole-shaped, like the pre-form of a future frog.

But this is no frog-to-be but the forerunner of something—

Awful!

## dr. yano's discovery

The biologist subjects the peculiar specimen to various tests.

**Next to the ever-growing Smog Monster, Godzilla looks like a baby. But, watch out—"super baby" packs a powerful wallop!**

And discovers something alarming:

Small pieces of the tadpole-like organism *come to life* in the polluted water.

Dr. Yano decides a closer inspection is called for.

He acquires scuba diving gear.

Accompanied by his adventurous son Ken, Dr. Yano heads for a rocky shore.

The young boy innocently amuses himself by playing among the rocks while his father dives into the water.

Little do father or son realize the hideous fate in store for the biologist. But—

Suddenly something virtually incomprehensible surges out of the water of Suruga:

A . . . *blob!*

A *monstrous* blob!

A monstrous *red-eyed* blob!

**Battleground of the Behemoths! Godzilla & Hedorah meet for the fight to the finish.**

## disaster in the depths

Ken can't believe his bulging eyes.

He screams.

But there is no one near to hear.

And his father is somewhere beneath the bay.

His father! Suddenly Ken is less concerned for his own safety than that of his parent.

The sea beast, having surfaced and scared the boy half to death, sinks again beneath the waves and there—unfortunately—it encounters the father.

Poor Dr. Yano!

Face to—face?—with a mutation of the depths.

A creation incomprehensible.

And super-acidic.

He is brushed by its huge amorphous mass and lets out a scream—unheard, for he is under water and the scream only expresses itself in a burst of bubbles—as his face feels as tho it were on fire.

Dr. Yano surfaces and then his son screams.

For his dad's face—his face—it's—oh, good lord—it's covered with acid burns!

Deep acid burns!

He'll be scared for the rest of his life...

## threat of the monster

Ken & Dr. Yano have confronted the monster.

They are the first to know of its terrifying existence.

But soon all Suruga knows of the monster for it bursts upon the populace in a dramatic attack on two sailing vessels in the harbor.

The vessels are destroyed and—

The people panic.

With good reason:

Fotos of the creature are taken by men bold enough to get close to it and it is revealed to be a giant mass of—

*Sludge.*

An *animated* MASS of sludge!

**Don't know why it should be so destructive of the automobiles—after all, they with their noxious vapors helped create it! Nevertheless, Frankenstein-like, Hedorah turns on its creators and wreaks havoc in streets of Japanese city.**

## hungry hedorah

Hedorah it is named, this beast born of the sea by an outraged Nature.

And, sharing an attribute with all newborns, it is *hungry*.

Perpetually.

And what do you think constitutes food for it?

Right: it thrives on foul fumes!

The acrid smoke pouring from the factories is as mother's milk to Hedorah!

Instinctively the great gaseous mass heads toward the industrial complexes whose tall chimneys are busily belching out its black . . . food.

## ghastly growth

In no time at all Hedorah has reared up 200 feet into the air!

At a height of 200 feet its gaseous mass has semi-solidified into a gelatinous mass.

And, in the process of development, it has learned to *fly*!

No longer land-bound, it can soar thru the air like a venomous vulture, seeking out ever more & more life-giving smokestacks.

In America it would be a job for Superman.

In Japan, of course, their only hope is their domesticated monster saviour—

GODZILLA!

## godzilla vs. hedorah

As the picture progresses to its *breath*taking climax, you will see:

—A brave boy fight the Smog Monster with only a knife.

—Horror from the heights as a helicopter pilot swoops down over Hedorah.

—Godzilla's deadly ray in action.

—The culminating battle from Tokyo to the foot of Mt. Fuji.

If *somebody* doesn't get busy and conquer smog, for ALL of us it may soon be **END**

No request too large (like KING KONG) or too small (like TOM THUMB) for Dr. Acula to come up with it for you. So keep your ghostcards coming and check this feature each issue to see if YOUR name & creature have been selected. To request a thrill still from the past, contact the ole Shock Doc at FAMOUS MONSTERS, 145 E. 32 St., New York City, NY 10016.

# YOU AXED FOR IT!

The Invader (Darryl McFadden) wants YOU! Remember him in "The Deadly Clue" episode of LOST IN SPACE? We hope you do, GREG PHILLIPS, GRETEL BROOKS, WAYNE M. RUBIN, DARREN SMITH, WALLY HERRINGTON, SHIRLEY HARRINGTON, MICHAEL BOUCHER, LOUISE FILI & JUNE SOBEL.

LON CHANEY JR. & J. Carrol Naish pose again (during filming of DRACULA VS. FRANKENSTEIN) for RON ADAMS, GLEN HERDE, RON OLSON, ROBT. McHONE, LINDA SHERMAN, ERIC HOFFMAN, TONY BRZEZINSKI, JOHN E. SPARKS & DAVID PASCAL.

LON CHANEY SR. as Juan Serafin in THE NEXT CORNER (1924) for TAMMY HAJEWSKI, BOB SCHERL, BILL NELSON, SUSAN GARFIELD, ROBT. G. ANDERSON, SAMMY DAVIS JR., CLEM PAULENS, DOREEN COPLEY, JEFF GATES, DUKE WATTS & MAX CYMER.

# YOU AXED FOR IT!

THE MAN WHO LAUGHS laughs again (in the new European version) for ROGER LIPSON, JIM STURGEON, DAVID ARNOLD, LAURA BRACKETT, P. MICHAEL CARRO, MARK GIACO, MIKE KOST, DOUG NATHMAN, BOB LEWTON & GREGORY AVERY & JASMINE FRAZIER.

# Two Creepy People

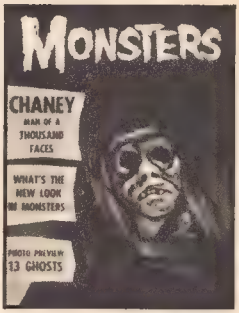
**BELA LUGOSI as Hindu swami in NIGHT OF TERROR (Columbia 1933) and BORIS KARLOFF as Hindu villain in UNHOLY NIGHT (his first talkie, MGM 1929). Don't say we never did nothin' for you, KATRINKA ROBERSON, CHAS. HIGHAM, MARIA McGRAYER, LOIS EDMONDS, ADAM MILLER, DAVID COOPER, JAMES MILLER, "WINKY" VOSBURGH, PATTY DONELSON, CARL BROADSHEET, JAMES DECHERT, JOHN BIEGEN, JOHN BENCH, RANDY WENDT, LINDA E. SQUIRES, ALAN KALIVAS, DICK SHEFFIELD, CLINT BRADY & BARBARA HILL.**

**A scene from the French film JUPITER (1971), for AHRPIE DUBE, JOYCIE MITCHELL, JUDE THOMSON, MARY HARRISON, DANIELLE DUBAY!**

# YOU AXED FOR IT!

## PART 2 of the ROBINSON GRU-SO STORY!

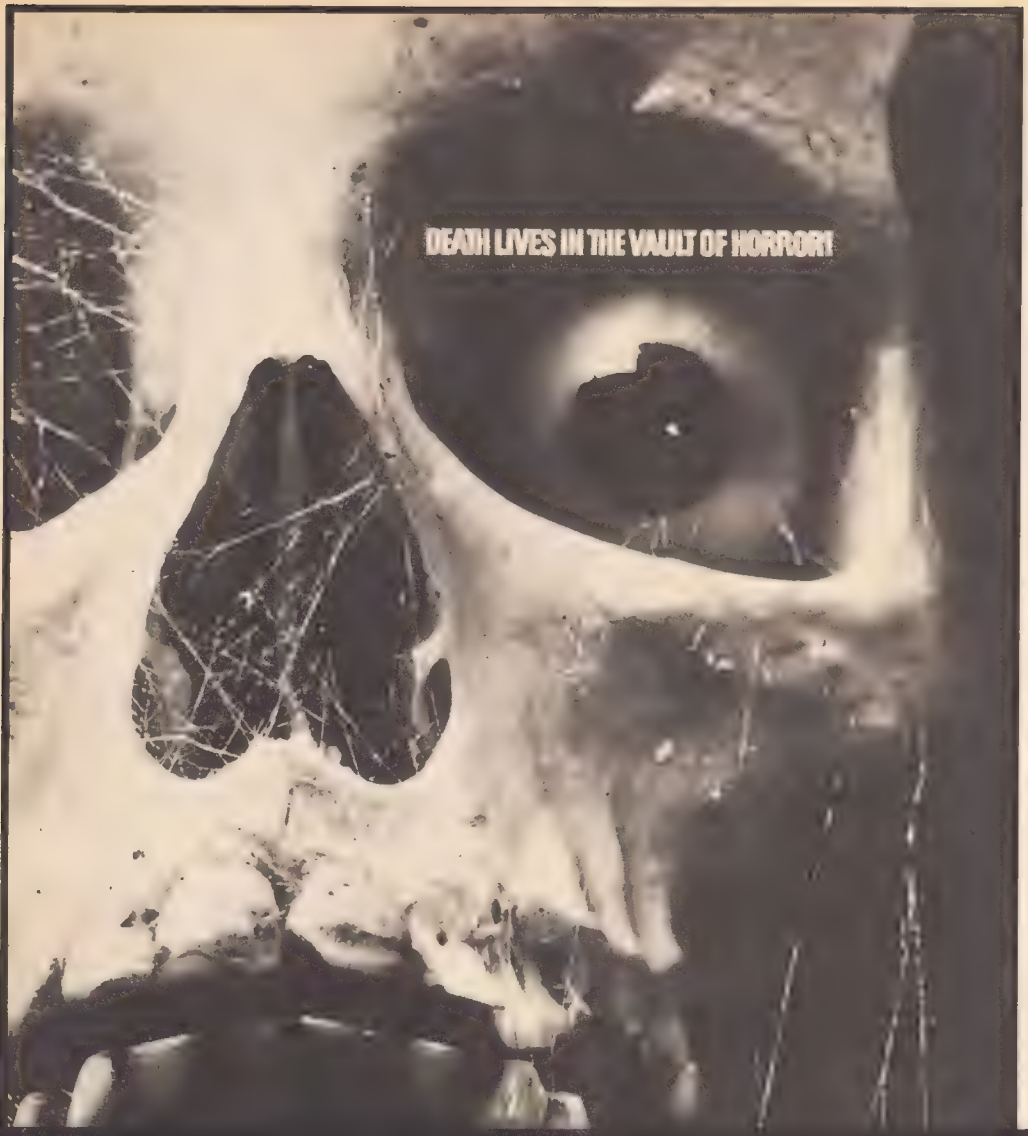
**Chris Robinson started out 12 years ago in the pages of FAMOUS MONSTERS #8 (cover shown at right), showing his own make-up (right) in BEAST FROM THE HAUNTED CAVE. He is seen below as ESP specialist Carey in the ABC-TV Network suspense drama "Sweet, sweet Rachel." We hope his picture will please DALE TAYLOR, DAWN VALOVCIN, AND STEVE WILDA.**



Heavens, it's Maurice Evans in his famous role as Super Ape in the original PLANET OF THE APES. Shown for DON McKINNEY, MARK EDMOND, JAMES SMITH, WES SHANK, PAUL CLEMENS, GLEN MARCUM, STEVEN MALANOSKI, JOHN BOULTON, RICHARD E. JONES & CHAS. KING.

THE CREATURE FROM THE BLACK LAGOON (Universal 1954) frightens Julia Adams as Jack Kevan, one of his designers, looks on. We hope you get a bit of a fright too, RICHARD ZYSK, EDW. RUTKOWSKI, STEPHEN HILL & MRS. HILL, ROB SCHICK, MARK HILL, TED KLEBON & CASIMIR DEPKA.

For TESS DODGE, ROBT. DENNIS, CATHY LYNN WILSON, CATHERYNE HAACK, CHRISTOPHER COBUNSTEIN, TAB GODBY, SCOTT SEAVER, DAVID BENSON, HARRY W. DAHL III, ARTHUR LOUIS JOQUEL II, MARK McMURTREY, FRED JERAULD & JOHN JEFFRIES this portrait of Christopher Lee as RASPUTIN—THE MAD MONK (Hammer-Fox 1966).




# TALES FROM THE CRYPT

...the wails from the Crypt may be your own!

## those fiendly folks

Those *fiendly* folks who gave us DR. TERROR'S HOUSE OF HORRORS, THE SKULL, THE HOUSE THAT DRIPPED BLOOD and other modern *feary* tales have now dug up a group of five more fright fables for the midnight movie set.

In the ALL THROUGH THE HOUSE segment of TALES FROM THE CRYPT, beautiful Joan Collins has a beastly time as, on Xmas eve, she receives an unexpected visit from an unwanted Santa Claus.

Unwanted because he's unbalanced.

A maniacal Kris Kringle!

It's not so merry a Christmas when poor Joan winds up murdering her husband.

In REFLECTION OF DEATH, the Grim Reaper himself mans a motorpsycho to run down his victims.

POETIC JUSTICE features the ever-welcome talent of horror film superstar Peter Cushing, who becomes a disintegrating ghoul and rises from his grave a year after his death to exact vengeance from the living.

In WISH YOU WERE HERE the horrorine is horrified to find that her last wish leaves her husband (Richard Greene) in a coffin, experiencing the suffering of death throughout eternity!

Finally, BLIND ALLEYS lead to Patrick Magee who, together with his fellow inmates in a home for the blind, seek revenge on one who wronged them.

## the man from crypt-on

A sort of superman himself is venerable English actor Sir Ralph Richardson, star of stage, screen & television.

Sir Ralph has been acting for over half a century now.

Many of you will be familiar with his classic interpretation of The Boss in HGWells' famous THINGS TO COME (1936) but, since it is an *almost* lost film (a print does exist in Belgium), not too many of you will be familiar with his role in THE GHOUL.

THE GHOUL! Vintage Karloff! A pairing of Karloff with Ernest Thesiger a year after they had acted so superbly together in THE OLD DARK HOUSE and two years before they would repeat with memorable performances in BRIDE OF FRANKENSTEIN.

Not only did Ralph Richardson appear in THE GHOUL with Karloff & Thesiger but the late Sir Cedric Hardwicke was in it as well. Three years later they would both lend stature to THINGS TO COME.

So Sir Ralph is no stranger to the realms of sci-fi & horror. But in his 70th year he delivers his most macabre role as the mysterious crypt-keeper who reveals horrible futures to a group of tourists lost in a dark catacomb.

Asked his reaction to playing in this horror film, Sir Ralph replied: "I had fun doing it but I can't tell you how well I did because I never look at a picture. After all, once it's rehearsed, shot and done, one's performance can't be changed."

Karloff never looked at his pictures either when first released but eventually, any time a couple years after original showing, by which time he had forgotten the various incidents that took place while shoot-

The Crypt Keeper (Sir Ralph Richardson) welcomes five unwary travelers to the vault of horror, where they hear hair-raising tales (five in all) about which YOU may now read.

40 Wm. Rogers wanders into Bloody Blade Dead End in the episode known as "Blind Alleys."

**Motor-Scythe follows one of his victims in "Reflection of Death" segment.**

ing, he would view one of his performances if the occasion arose.

Of TALES FROM THE CRYPT Sir Ralph observed: "Appearing in this horror film brings my career full circle. In 1933 I did my *first* movie, THE GHOUL. I can remember it quite well. I played a charming little minister who went around dynamiting homes."

Be it ever so disassembled there's no place like home!

Does he play his role of the Cryptic one with make-up? "The producers wanted me complete with beard and everything," he said, "but I told them: my face, at 70, is quite old enough and doesn't need to be disguised one bit to make me appear ancient."

Don't miss him as the avenging monk in TALES FROM THE CRYPT.

## joan of aarrrgghh!

Joan Collins makes a killing in ALL THROUGH THE HOUSE.

But on the 6th take for the murder of her on-screen husband, she observed, "It's getting more & more difficult to kill your hubby these days!"

Then she hit him with the brass poker for the 6th time.

THUR
ISDYKE
7-1972

**On the anniversary of his death, Arthur Grimsdyke rises from the grave.**

**Santa gets his claws on Joan Collins in "All Through the House."**

A bit of a joker, she continued: "There'd be a lot less crime in the world today if film directors were staging it!"

"Okay, let's see the murder once more!" called Freddie Francis, the director. "And this time pause just a beat before you strike Martin again."

Asked how *she* feels about playing in such a macabre movie, Miss Collins replied: "Actually, I love horror films. But I do hate seeing blood. It makes me sick," she confided as the wardrobe mistress wiped red paint off her dress.

"I'm intrigued by the whole thing of why we love to go to the movies to be frightened when it really isn't a pleasant feeling at all. As an actress & a mother I feel things are going much too far in the area of violence."

But as for TALES FROM THE CRYPT, Joan Collins is reportedly happy with it in every way. "It should be great good fun for audiences and it is nice that great actors like Sir Ralph and Patrick Magee are doing thrillers now too. Too often a horror film is done with bad actors but now they are so popular that the best in the business want to be in them."

Applying to which remarks one thinks of Bette Davis recently in the telefilm MADAME SATAN, Olivia deHavilland in Ray Bradbury's SCREAMING WOMAN, Rod Steiger in Bradbury's ILLUSTRATED MAN and the potential casting of Sir Lawrence Olivier (recently upped to *Lord* Olivier) in the MGM remake of DR. JEKYLL & MR. HYDE.

## grim humor

Standing above her movie husband's dead body during a third "take," Miss Collins glanced down at the "corpse" and remarked, "You sure have it easy, don't you, just lying there during all my acting?"

"You should have *my* worries," the corpse replied. "I'm afraid flies will start collecting on my dead body!"

Joan smiled sweetly and topped him.

"Don't worry about flies, my dear—we may be here so long that... well, let me put it this way: the time to worry is when you hear the flap of *vultures'* wings!"

## peter the great

Peter Cushing decided to become an actor when he was only 21 but it took almost another 20 years of hard work till his talent was recognized.

In 1953 in England he was selected as "Best Actor of the Year." This led to his casting in THE CURSE OF FRANKENSTEIN and the well-known succession of horror films that have made his name, like Karloff, Lee, Lugosi, Chaney, Price, a household word.

In sober matter of fact Mr. Cushing is a quiet, gentle man, much like the late Boris Karloff, who enjoys gardening. However, even if completely unjustified, Mr. Cushing doesn't mind the monster image. His name on the marquee, along with that of his good friend Christopher Lee, is like having the Good Horrorskeeping Seal of Approval on a film.

In POETIC JUSTICE Peter Cushing plays a Mr. Grimsdyke, a kindly old character—at first. But after being driven to death by a pair of greedy neighbors, he comes back from the grave to get bloody revenge on the evildoers.

**"Poetic Justice" (emphasis on the Poe) is what Grimsdyke seeks. The living corpse is the latest role for Peter Cushing.**

For his segment as the risen Ghoul, Peter Cushing wears his most horrific make-up to date. The over-all application took several hours daily and when the mild-mannered Mr. C. saw himself in the mirror, he reports "I myself was horrified!"

## greene sees red

Richard Greene, seen in the WISH YOU WERE HERE segment, was last seen in THE BLOOD OF FU MANCHU. On TV he's appeared in two fantasy plays, one involving time travel—the well-known BERKELEY SQUARE—and the other life after death, PETER IBBETSON.

## magee can't see

Patrick Magee can't see in BLIND ALLEYS, as he portrays a sightless man who leads fellow patients in a terrifying revolt against the brutally unjust & selfish Superintendent of a Home for the Blind. He's previously had a spooky part in SEANCE ON A WET AFTERNOON and a hair-raising one in the current kinky future film called A CLOCKWORK ORANGE.

## diabolical director

The director of TALES FROM THE CRYPT, Freddie Francis, has established quite a reputation for himself as one of Europe's leading exponents of suspense, terror & horror films.

His previous excursions into the fantastic & perverse include:

—THE SKULL
—THE PSYCHOPATH
—THE DEADLY BEES
—DR. TERROR'S HOUSE OF HORRORS
—THEY CAME FROM BEYOND SPACE
—TORTURE GARDEN
—PARANOIAC
—NIGHTMARE
—HYSTERIA
...and VAMPIRE HAPPENING.

**Hands of horror reach out for villain who forced man to take his own life in Grimsdyke tale from the Crypt.**

## creepy co-producers

Rosenberg & Subotsky.

A team that's been responsible for quite a few pictures teeming with terror. TALES FROM THE CRYPT is the 7th in which they've used Freddie Francis as director.

In addition they were responsible for the very fine sci-fi film, which many thought compared favorable with CHARLY: THE MIND OF MR. SOAMES.

Speaking for himself & his partner, Mr. Subotsky says:

"We intend to continue with horror movies.

"But we're only interested in those stories that deal with imagination & fantasy. Explicit & brutal violence is out."

It is the terror team of Rosenberg & Subotsky that soon will bring us the new version of DR. JEKYLL & MR. HYDE called I, MONSTER—with Christopher Lee!

## harpy ending

We'll be creeping off now.
See you in the Crypt! END

# MYSTERY PHOTO NUMBER 58

## WHO The DEVIL can he be?

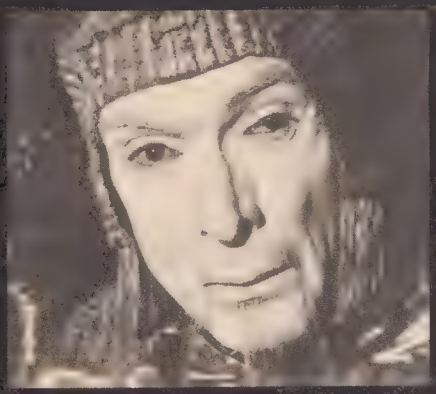
We hope he'll excuse us if we say he looks like ...heck.

IS he Heck, son of Eck? (Eck, you real smart aleck film buffs will recall as the ectoplasmic star of ONE GLORIOUS DAY, first fantasy film Ye Ed ever remembers seeing... way back in 1923.)

Is he a tree-man from the Doug Fairbanks version of THE THIEF OF BAGDAD?

Is he Victor Jory in A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM?

Enough guessing! This clue will help you determine what picture he appeared in, in case you don't automatically know: NO DERN TEASIN'. But just to make it a little extra difficult this time, we left ONE letter out of the clue. Up to you to supply it! If you don't, you get an F on your report card.



## ANSWER TO MYSTERY PHOTO No. 57

You're in the dough if you guessed that the pasty-faced person on the left was a member of the underground in

...THE MOLE PEOPLE (Universal 1956). First one to properly identify the film was MARTIN ALARNICK, who PHONED in his answer. Fans who figured out Mystery Pic #56 correctly as being from THE HYPNOTIC EYE included Fiona McQuarrie, Don Frank, Lou Brancadoro, Mark Stine, Charlie Cooke & Sven Golly.

LUGOSI
LEDERER
LON & LEE

... now from
the dead
rises
ROBERT
QUARRY
as –

# COUNT YORGA, vampire

## count on youtha!

The kids came thru!

We started saying, about 13 years ago in the pages of FM, that one day when some of our readers were grown up they would get into the movie industry and then we would have some better horror pictures. Well, as we understand it, a bunch of college students got together and produced COUNT YORGA, VAMPIRE, and whether any of them ever read or were influenced directly by FM we don't actually know but we hope we were at least indirectly responsible for helping make a prophecy come true.

We *know* at least the Special Effects man was raised on FM because he told us so while working on THE INCREDIBLE INVASION and Boris Karloff's other final films.

Michael Macready, son of George, produced the picture and George's daughter plays a nurse in it. Old Dad lends his distinctive Claude Rains-like voice to the narration of COUNT YORGA. You'll remember the sinister Mr. Macready in countless fine film & TV performances, including menacing roles in SOUL OF A MONSTER, THE MONSTER & THE APE (Columbia serial) and THE HUMAN DUPLICATORS.

## the gory story

"Startling as it may seem," says the film's writer-director, Bob Kelljan, "this revolutionary film conveys the fearful idea that a vampire could be your next-door neighbor." (After all, BELA LUGOSI once had next-door neighbors. And *somebody* has to

**One dead, the other Undead. Can your educated eye for vampires detect the difference?**

# COUNT YORGA'S CRIMSON KISS

Beautiful Erica (Judith Lang) gets the famous fang from the Vampire Master, Count Yorga (Robert Quarry), in the kiss of death.

live on either side of, and across the street from, the Ackermonster. —Maybe *that's* why there's a new For Rent sign every week!)

Kelljan continues: "You may not expect to see the Port of Los Angeles or a Volkswagen bus or an ultra-modern kitchen as the habitat of vampires but in COUNT YORGA they are there!

"And when you see a he or she vampire zipping around city streets in the newest automobile you may begin to wonder.

"Coffins are carried right thru the heart of LA and there's a horrific seance that's held in a deluxe Hollywood hills mansion. In fact the eerie story opens with a funeral casket being transported on city streets, its destination a forbidding manse in a remote wooded section."

A huge iron gate, operated by Brudah (Edward Walsh, a gruesome hulk of a man), swings open to admit the casket.

Inside the mansion of menace sits a handsome but palely sinister personality—

## count yorga!

It is the Vampire (Robert Quarry), who is conducting a seance in weird, flickering candlelight.

The participants are:

Paul.

Paul's girlfriend Erica.

Michael (Michael Macready).

Donna (Michael's girlfriend).

And another couple.

In the seance Count Yorga seeks to summon the spirit of Donna's mother, who recently died, for she was the beloved of . . . the vampire.

Those who sat down at the seance table as skeptics, disbelievers, cannot help but believe when they leave, for the series of occurrences they have experienced have been too weird to attribute to anything other than the supernatural forces.

It becomes apparent that Donna & Erica are coming under Yorga's complete mental domination but on the dark night of the seance he "generously" allows them to leave. What is now known is that the thirsty Count has arranged that Paul & Erica will be trapped in the woods and forced to stay in that lonely sector all night. During the night a murderous attack is made on the pair; Paul is knocked out and when he comes to he discovers Erica bears the mark of the vampire.

## horrors unlimited

Enter young Dr. Hayes. His opinion: "There is a vampire at large!" A series of gruesome events provoke the doctor, Paul & Michael into dangerous action: Erica is discovered viciously devouring a cat . . . a baby is found dead, drained of all blood . . . Erica & Donna disappear. Armed with wooden stakes & a cross, the doctor & Michael make for Yorga's hideout.

Too late! Draculosis has claimed a houseful of victims and even Donna's mother has reappeared, turning the mansion into a house of horror. In the terrifying climax Dr. Hayes & Michael fall before the full attack of a horde of draculinas!

TURN PAGE FOR A TALE OF RAGE—THE TERRIFYING RETURN OF COUNT YORGA

**Darling draculina Deborah Darnell displays her dentures.**

**Kitten, you gotta be batty to quench your thirst with your cat!**

# THE RETURN OF COUNT YORGA

**A hand from outside and Cynthia nearly died!**

## more macabre minutes

The original COUNT YORGA, VAMPIRE, ran 90 bloodcurdling minutes—exactly an hour & a half of horror.

The scarifying sequel ran (flew?) 7 menacing minutes longer.

Bob Kelljan was back on screenplay collaboration and as director; again, Geo. Macready's son produced.

This time, the senior Macready himself appeared in an impressive cameo as Prof. Rightstat.

And Edw. Walsh was back as the brooding brute man, Brudah.

## the return

At a large orphanage near the forbidding chateau of Count Yorga (once again Robt. Quarry, of course), young orphan Tommy innocently chases his big bouncing rubber ball thru the woods.

There is a stranger in the woods: the vampire chieftan. And Tommy has the misfortune to meet him.

Witch takes a bite (but large!) out of sarge.

Jason's fight for life after vampires' bite.

After his solitary play, Tommy returns to the orphanage, seemingly none the worse for his en-

## masquerade—and real rade

A masquerade party is held at the orphanage.

The guest arrive in all sorts of bizarre costumes—birdmen, batmen, frogwomen . . . the works.

All hiding behind masks, of course.

Except one powerful figure at the masquerade is not pretending.

Count Yorga.

Count Yorga is attracted to an attractive young girl, Cynthia Nelson. "Excuse me," he says in his suavest manner; "I believe I have the good fortune to be your neighbor."

The Count is disappointed, however, when Cynthia introduces him to her fiance, Dr. David Baldwin. Right away Yorga conceives an intense dislike of the young man. At that moment his fate is sealed!

## mark of the vampire

The music & festivities of the masquerade are suddenly interrupted by piercing screams. And screams are not all that have been pierced: the neck—the neck of Mitzi Carthay!

Punctured!

Two blood-bubbling wounds at the side of her throat.

The unconscious girl has been *attacked by a*—

Vampire!

## onslaught of the draculinas

That same night the Undead Count summons his servant, Brudah.

"Brudah—the girls!" he orders.

Brudah understands whom his master means by "the girls" and shambles off to assemble them.

"They" are the disciples of Yorga.

His female fiends!

. . . At the home of the nearby Nelsons, the family is awake that night, inexplicably disturbed by a feeling of foreboding, a strange apprehension that Something is about to happen.

*Suddenly!* the vampire band *bursts* into the house. Did you perhaps see BURN, WITCH, BURN? Do you remember how the huge statue of the eagle came to life and suddenly *crashed* right thru the door and pursued the terrified hero down the hall? Well . . . something like that.

## bloody shambles

You can't imagine (if you haven't seen it) the intensity of the vampire raid as Count Yorga and his minions overwhelm the unnerved Nelson family.

The Nelsons don't stand a chance before the nails & knife-sharp fangs of the female fiends & their Vampire Master.

The livingroom is reduced to a dyingroom, a blood-spattered aftermath of a hurricane of horror.

The Nelsons—all except Cynthia—are carried off

The caped Count pursues his quarry in the full fury of his vampiric attack.

Laurie is turned into a harpy in this horror story.

Brudah (in background) helps his Master to arise.

to the Yorga mansion. Cynthia alone is spared in the bloodletting.

Jennifer, a deaf mute who works at the orphanage and resides at the Nelsons', descends from her bedroom to be confronted by the grisly scene of crimson carnage.

The woman, unable to speak, cannot even relieve her feelings by a shriek as she runs in terror from the terrible sight and wakes up young Tommy, who has been spending the night there and, in the exhausted sleep of childhood, has slept right thru the pandemonium downstairs.

## next morning's mystery

The following day the police arrive at the Nelson home but find it—spotless! No evidence whatsoever of the nightmarish action of the night before. Was it in fact a nightmare, a disturbed dream of the mute? A note indicates that the entire Nelson family has left in an emergency to visit a relative.

But Dr. Baldwin is inclined to believe that Jennifer's story is reality. Furthermore, he suspects there is a link between her story and the savage assault on Mitzi.

To the doctor the entire strange doings are clear-cut evidence of vampire activity.

But the note, and the fact that Tommy will not support the mute woman's story, cause the police to doubt that anything untoward has happened.

Tommy . . . tomboy who's terrified.

## "you will forget . . ."

Count Yorga is a master of hypnotic powers.

"You will forget . . . forget," he intones to Cynthia as, alone with his prize in his room, he tells her that she will "forget the horrors of this night.

"You have been in an auto accident, my dear.

"Fortunately you were not hurt, only dazed. I brought you here."

He then offers her Eternal Life! "Accept my love and I will show you how you may live forever!" he tempts her.

But she rejects him.

Dejected, Yorga confesses his love for Cynthia to a witch among his batwomen.

"Kill her!" the witchwoman curses. "Kill her or we will *all* be destroyed!"

**Count Yorga's draculinas carry off Cynthia after attacking her parents. Is Cynthia alive or—undead?**

## another murder

The Count leaves his lair to trail Mitzi & her boyfriend Joe. He finds the pair on Joe's boat at a marina and there kills the young man and overpowers Mitzi.

Baldwin arrives as the police are investigating the murder and requests a blood sample from Joe's body but is refused. He is still convinced that vampires are at the root of the unholy happenings but is unable to convince police Lt. Madden until a foto taken at the masquerade opens his eyes: Yorga was there—but his image is missing!

The lieutenant now agrees to investigate Yorga's mansion. The police silently enter but are ambushed by the blood-lusting women there. Baldwin has entered by another door, searching for Cynthia, and he too is suddenly attacked by the harpies. He fends them off and then Yorga appears. Cynthia is his captive!

Baldwin & Yorga fight until the count is knocked over a balcony.

Cynthia rushes to David (Dr. Baldwin) in relief. She throws her arms around him. It appears he will kiss her. Instead, he drops his head to her neck and draws back his lips, revealing the canine fangs of a vampire.

He sinks them into her throat. **END**

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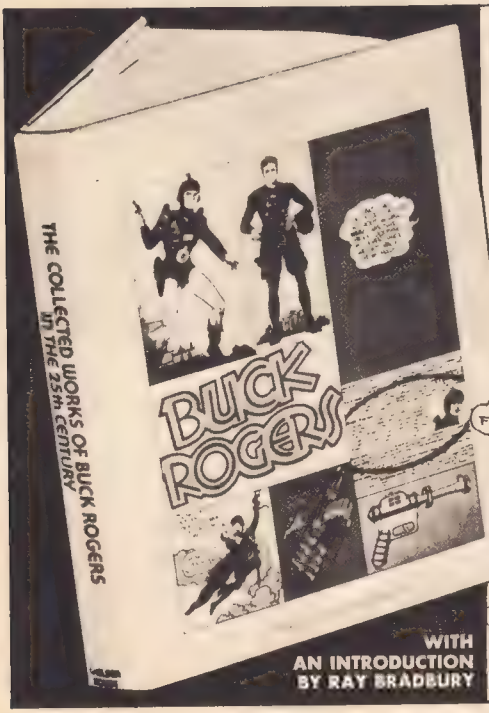


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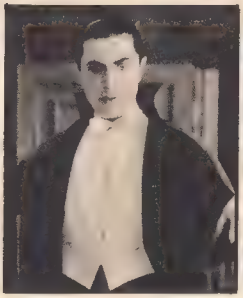

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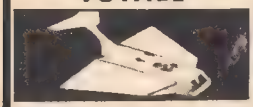

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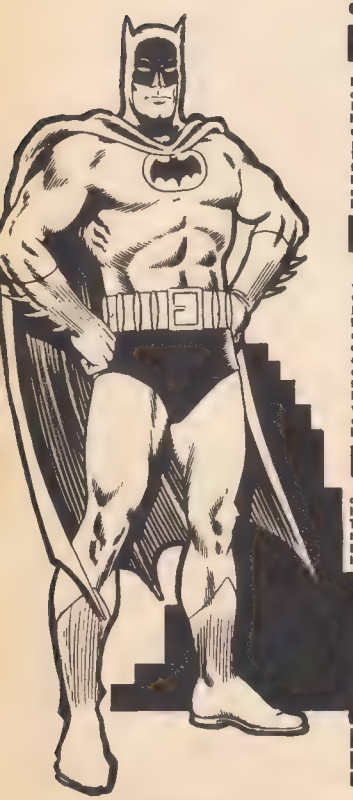

### CHAPTER 1—The Electrical Brain

The Batman (Lewis Wilson), and his young assistant, Robin, the Boy Wonder (Douglas Croft), hit on the trail of an enemy sabotage ring, when Bruce's girl friend, Linda (Shirley Patterson), asks the pair to help her free her uncle, Martin Warren (Gus Glassmire), from the clutches of the ring. The Batman learns that the ring plans to steal the city's radium supply from the city hospital, and hurries there to prevent the theft. A terrific fight ensues, and the attempted robbery is thwarted. However, during the battle, the Batman is forced to the roof, and staggered by the rain of blows poured on him, is finally sent reeling over the ledge into space!

### CHAPTER 2—The Bat Cave

The Batman lands unhurt on a painter's scaffolding, and returning to the roof, captures one of the gangsters with Robin's aid. Back at the Batman's hideout, the Bat Cave, the gangster reveals that a Dr. Daka (J. Carrol Naish) directs the ring from the House of the Open Door. Disguised, the Batman and Robin visit the Open Door, and discover Linda a prisoner there. Hooking ropes over electric cables suspended between buildings, the Batman and Robin climb to the room where she is imprisoned and overcome a number of the mobsters. Then carrying the unconscious Linda, the Batman slowly makes his way back over the cables. One of the gangsters breaks a wire and touches the raw end against the cables. Sparks and flames engulf the pair. Suddenly the Batman loses his balance and he and Linda plunge into space!

### CHAPTER 3—The Living Corpse

The Batman leaps from the car as it plunges over the cliff. At home, an assignment from Washington awaits him. He is to protect the new Lockwood airplane motor. Two of the Lockwood men are abducted by Daka and transformed into Zombies. Just before a test flight, the Batman secrets himself in the plane. No sooner is he hidden, than the new Zombies enter the plane dressed in pilots' clothes. Following Daka's radio directions, the Zombies take the plane into the air. Suddenly the doctor sees the Batman on his television screen and orders the Zombies to attack. Out of control, the plane attracts attention and suffers a direct hit, and crashes to earth!

### CHAPTER 4—Poison Peril

The Zombies are killed in the crack-up, but the Batman miraculously escapes injury. Back in town, Colton, (Charles Middleton), an old friend of Linda's uncle, is searching for him. He has discovered a radium mine. Daka learns of Colton's mine and attempts to lure him to an old smelter, in order to force him to reveal the mine's location. The Batman learns of Daka's ruse, and takes Colton's place at the rendezvous. He and Robin attack the gangster and a battle royal follows. In the melee, an acid vat is tipped over, and a stream of acid hits an exposed high-tension wire. There is a blinding flash. Debris and timber fall, burying the Batman!

### CHAPTER 5—Executioner Strikes

Robin raises the trap-door and pulls his pal to safety. Linda, now a Zombie, writes a note to the Batman asking him to meet her at an isolated building. Though suspecting a ruse, the Batman goes there. Daka's men overpower him and pack him into a crate. The crate is then tossed into a cave of ravenous alligators. It crashes down on the beasts sending them into frenzied attack!

### CHAPTER 6—Doom of the Rising Sun

Robin comes to the Batman's rescue. He knocks out one of the gangsters and frees his fighting friend. The pair crash into Daka's inner sanctum, and after a terrific battle, overpower Daka and his men. The Batman orders the doctor to return Linda and her uncle from their Zombie state to normality. After doing this, Daka, makes a break for freedom, and is accidentally plunged into the alligator pit. As the police arrive to take the gang into custody, the Batman and Robin disappear—their work, for the present, is done!

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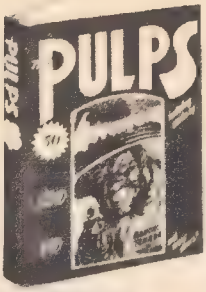


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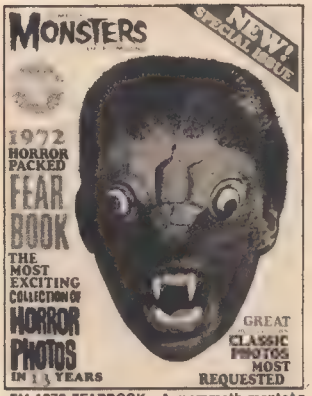


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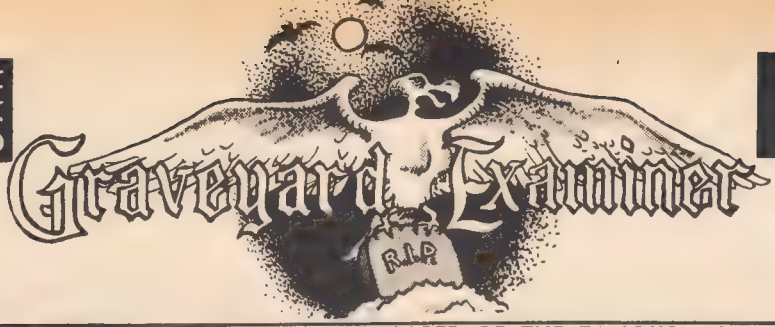




DEAD-LETTER EDITION OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE FAMOUS MONSTERS CLUB

# MONSTER FAN PHOTOS

ABOVE: Letting loose with a toothy smile is NEIL ANDREWS, who made himself up as a vampire and really sank his teeth into the characterization. BELOW: Both the kids and the dinosaurs belong to Australian FM fan JOHN MOON whose hobby is building monster models and photographing them.

# GORY-SPONDENTS

Want a GORYSPONDENT? This is the space reserved for readers who are interested in writing to other fans all over the world. Just send us your name, address, and a brief description of what you are interested in to:

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EXAMINER
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145 East 32nd St.
New York, N.Y. 10016

And try to enclose a photo!

KENT KIRBY, 1340 Pine St., Naples, Fla. 33940 is 17 and would like to write to fans who collect monster movies and make their own films...

MICHELLE SCHROEDER, 4921 Parkview Ave., McHenry, Ill. 60050 is 12 years old and wants to write to anyone who digs horror...

DONNA CMIL, 12 Pine St., Carteret, N.J. 07008 is 16 and adores DARK SHADOWS, vampires, occult & witchcraft...

RICHARD SELFRIDGE, 505 East Winona Ave., Norwood, Pa. 19074 is a life-long admirer of Barnabas Collins...

HORROR WORLD FANZINE, with articles on BLACK SUNDAY & female monsters is available for 20¢ from PSYCHO PUBLICATIONS, 505 Lyyski St., Sparks, Nev. 89431...

MARY DeMONTE, 96 Bay View Ave., Lynn, Mass. 01902 is 16 years old and would like to write to fans who favor Bela Lugosi, Peter Cushing, Vincent Price & Basil Rathbone...

KAY VOLLICK, 340 Whitney Ave., Hamilton, 15, Ont., Canada is 17 years old and would like to goryspond with anyone interested in vampires...

PAT TANTALO, 321 Emerson St., Rochester, N.Y. 14613 also likes DARK SHADOWS and is looking for a female pen-pal. How about it, Donna?...

TEDDY KUJAWSKI, P.O. Box 1129, Peconic Lane, Peconic, N.Y. 11958 is 15 and would like to hear from a girl who is interested in Lovecraft, Poe, Lugosi & Karloff...

DON'T FORGET... we want to hear from YOU!

# ANSWERS TO JUMBLE #3

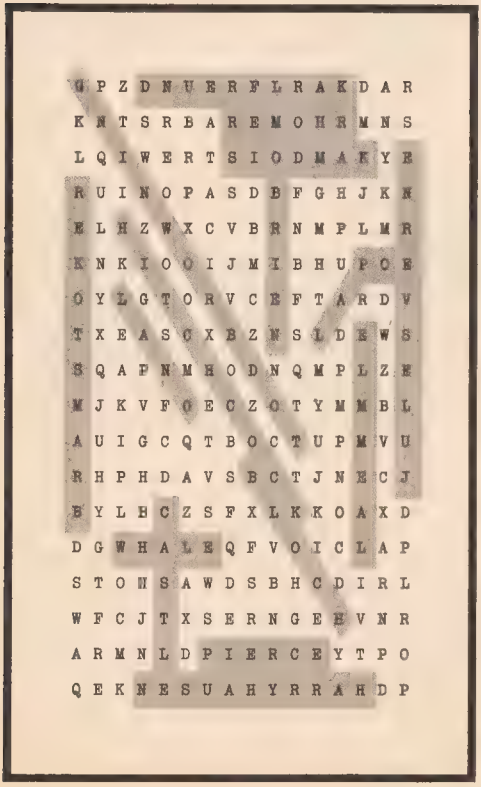
Most of you thought that this was our most difficult jumble to date, and we'd have to agree. Still, SAMMY CLEFF of Salt Lake City, Utah and MIKE YOUCH of Richmond, Va. managed to get all 17 names of people connected with horror films. Here are the answers.

Written horizontally are (Curt) SIODMAK, (E.A.) POE, (James) WHALE and (Jack) PIERCE. Backwards are KARL FREUND, (Sax) ROHMER and (Ray) HARRYHAUSEN.

Vertically you can find BRAM STOKER, (William) CASTLE, (Willis) O'BRIEN, (Carl) LAEMMLE and JULES VERNE.

Diagonally, from left to right, are (Fritz) LANG, (Robert) BLOCH, (Alfred) HITCHCOCK and (George) PAL. Diagonally, right to left: TOD BROWNING.

Once again we'd like to thank JOHN ANTOSIEWICZ for sending in this Monster Jumble, and we invite all of you to contribute your own brain teasers!




# MONSTERS OF THE MONTH

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BERNIE JONES

MICHAEL BELROSE

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**Q** I just came back from seeing HOUSE OF WAX at our local theater. I loved the film, and thought the 3-D effect was just great. My question is: is this a new film or an old one?—SCOTT OSHAN, Flushing, N.Y.

3-D VIEWERS
they're back!

**A** It was new when it was first released back in 1953, Scott! Now, almost 20 years later, it's still scaring the yell out of audiences from Coast to Coast.

PROFESSOR GRUEBEARD
after thumbing thru this issue's questions

**Q** We've had PLANET OF THE APES, then BENEATH THE PLANET OF THE APES and finally ESCAPE FROM THE PLANET OF THE APES. At least I thought it was final! Now I hear that the producers have yet another bit of monkey business in the works. If it's true, I'll go ape!—RITA FRIEDMAN, New York, N.Y.

**A** Don't go bananas, Rita, but it IS true. Production has already begun on the fourth film in the famous series, to be called CONQUEST OF THE PLANET OF THE APES. In this one, baby Milo grows up to lead an ape-revolution against the humans of the future.

MORE MONKEY BIZ?
ape-solutely

**Q** Imagine my surprise when, while watching TV, I see a Volkswagen commercial starring KING KONG! I thought it was hilarious and extremely well done. Who do we have to thank for this one?—LINDA JONES, Hempstead, L.I.

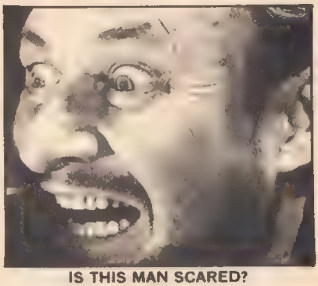
**A** Thank David Allen, Linda. He's the talented young animator who worked on the chasmasaur sequence in WHEN DINOSAURS RULED THE EARTH, as well as numerous television commercials.

**Q** Were the creatures in THE HORROR OF PARTY BEACH animated? They were very realistic.—BUTTY WEISS, Queens, N.Y.

**A** Hardly, Butty. They were merely men inside monster suits.

HORROR OF PARTY BEACH
animated?

**Q** I've sat down and tried to think of the scariest movie ever made, but I just can't seem to narrow it down. There have been so many truly frightening films. I'd like to know if there is any one picture that's supposed to be THE scariest.—SHELLEY TARNOFF, San Diego, Calif.



IS THIS MAN SCARED?
which film made him that way?

**A** That's one question even I can't answer, Shelley. Being frightened is a personal thing, and everyone has their own particular choice for scariest movie.

END

(Continued from page 4)

longer amount of reading time. Quality-wise, this issue was very good with the DRACULA VS. FRANKENSTEIN story, new movie news, part 2 of the DR. PHIBES filmbook, etc. Glad you ran the GOLEM story. I have always thought this to be one of the best horror films of

**WANTED! More Readers Like**

**ALAN KREUZER**

the silent era, though I'll take Lon Chaney over Wegener any time.

I'd also like to comment on the movie WILLARD. Altho many people seemed to flip for it, I didn't like it. The movie did not personify true horror, or create a mystic aura as did HORROR OF FRANKENSTEIN, SCARS OF DRACULA, DR. PHIBES, and many other new releases. I agree with Tom Weaver and the rest that too much blood & guts are presented in these films, but it can be tolerated if it has a good enough plot to go with it.

Everyone probably went wild over WILLARD because of Bruce Davison, the star of the movie. I imagine that many of the teenagers in the audience could relate to his character.

**JOE SZYMANIAK**
**Madison, Wisc.**

**WANTED! More Readers Like**

**THOMAS ARNDT**

**THE FAN THAT SCREAMED**

I'm writing concerning Paul Gray's letter in issue #89 defending new horror movies. He mentioned THE HOUSE THAT SCREAMED, and said it was excellent. I, personally, thought that it was one of the best horror films I've ever seen. It was suspenseful, shuddery, gory and . . . well . . . just great! Besides, they had the good fortune of using a fantastic new young actor named John Moulder-Brown, who plays "Louis".

The acting throughout the picture is superb. The character "Louis" was the moodiest & spookiest I've seen in a long time.

I think this film deserves feature coverage, for it is truly a gem in my book. I'd also like to see a picture story on NIGHT OF THE LIVING DEAD.

Again, let me say that THE HOUSE THAT SCREAMED is a fantastically scary movie. I'd see it 50 more times if I didn't scare easily. Once is enough . . . for now!

**ALLYSON DALTON**
**Ft. Charlotte, Fla.**

**WANTED! More Readers Like**

**WINSTON CHEW**

**THINKS FILMBOOKS ARE FINE**

I have a confession to make. When I thumbed through my very first issue of **FM**, I was a bit annoyed that so much space was devoted to a single article, which you called a filmbook. I thought that it was just a waste of pages which could have been used for many different little articles.

Since I first saw **FM**, your quality has risen (and not from the grave). There have been tremendous improvements and, after I begin reading some of the filmbooks, I thought they were fantastic!

Among the ones I have enjoyed most over the past issues have been THE BLACK CAT, THE MASK OF FU MANCHU, THE OLD DARK HOUSE and THE ISLAND OF LOST SOULS. Although, to a greater or lesser degree, I like them all. I have certainly changed my opinion about them!

In the future, I shall be looking forward to reading more of your fabulous filmbook coverage of fantasy films. I would especially like to see more articles like these about Christopher Lee's films. One picture I would love to read about is THE DEVIL'S BRIDE!

**LESLIE DAUGHERTY**
**Chicago, Ill.**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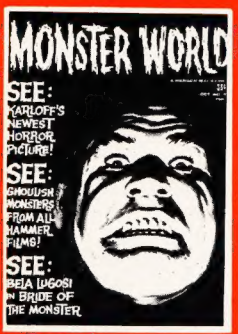


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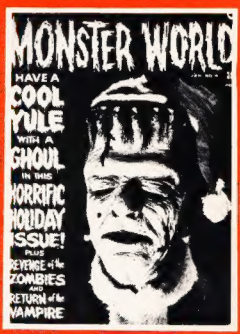


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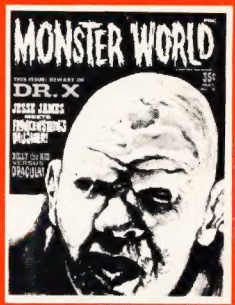


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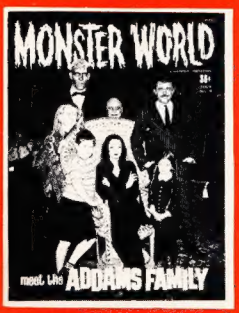


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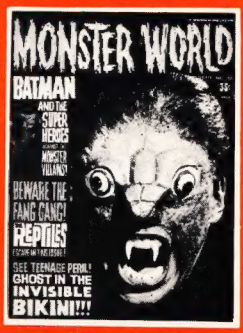


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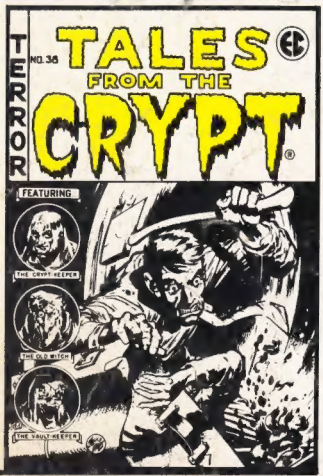


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